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Sen. Gilbert introducing legislation to end sale of traffic signal controllers

Lansing – Legislation is in the works to outlaw the purchase, possession or use of stoplight controllers and provide penalties for offenders, Sen. Jud Gilbert (R-Algonac) announced today.

“These devices were originally intended for police and rescue vehicles to use to clear intersections when responding to an emergency,” Gilbert said. “Unfortunately, they are getting into hands of irresponsible people who are using them to speed through intersections without stopping. This could potentially create a very dangerous situation at intersections.”

Known as Mobile Infrared Transmitters, the devices emit a beam to receivers installed at intersections and, when within a 1,500-foot range, change the light immediately, allowing emergency vehicles to clear intersections before approaching.

Since the devices operate on infrared signals, they do not emit radio signals like radar jammers and certain laser detectors. Therefore, they do not violate Federal Communications Commission guidelines.

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Editors Note: Downloadable comments from Senator Gilbert are available on the Senate Majority Audiowire at: www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/audiowire.